

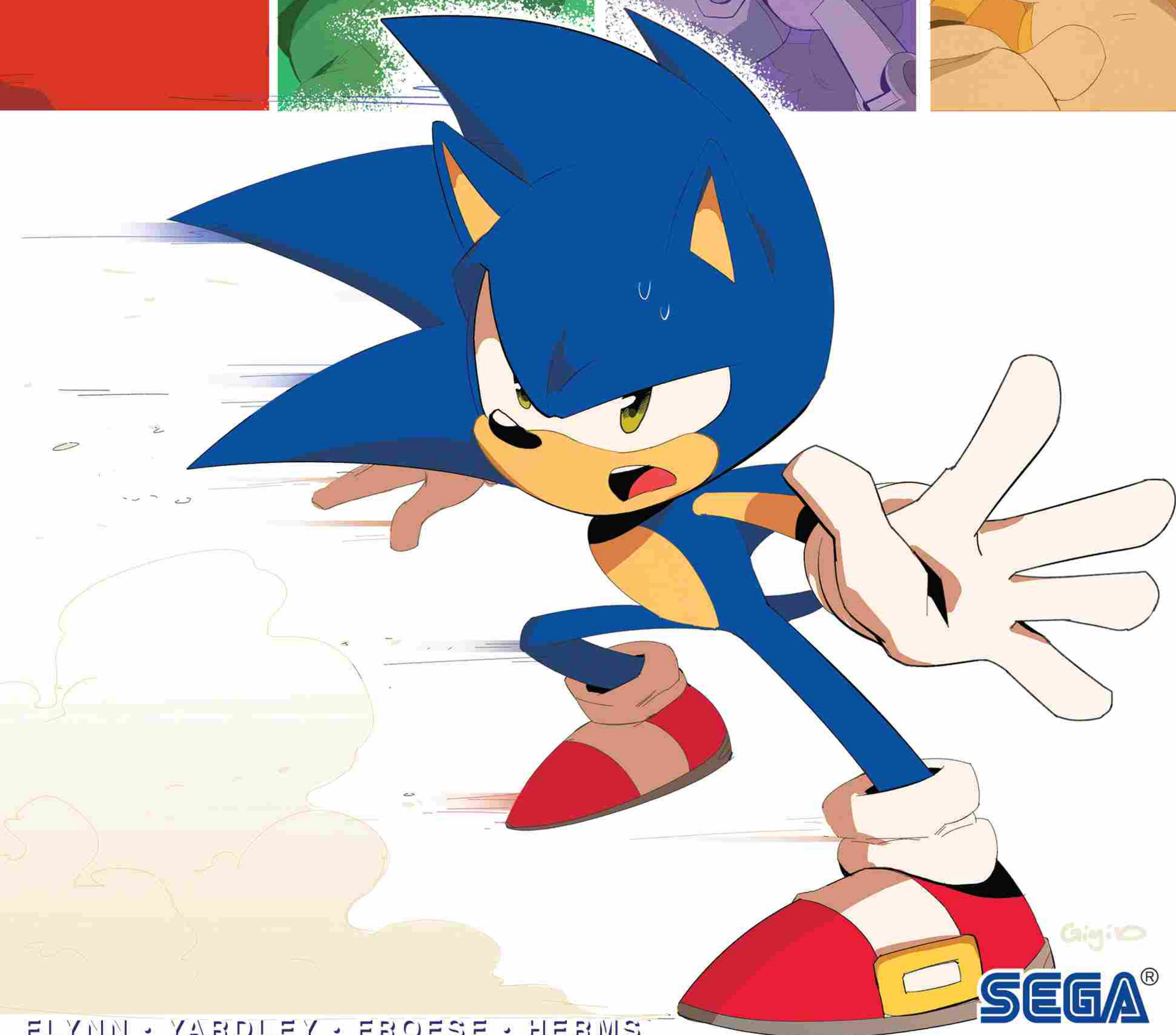
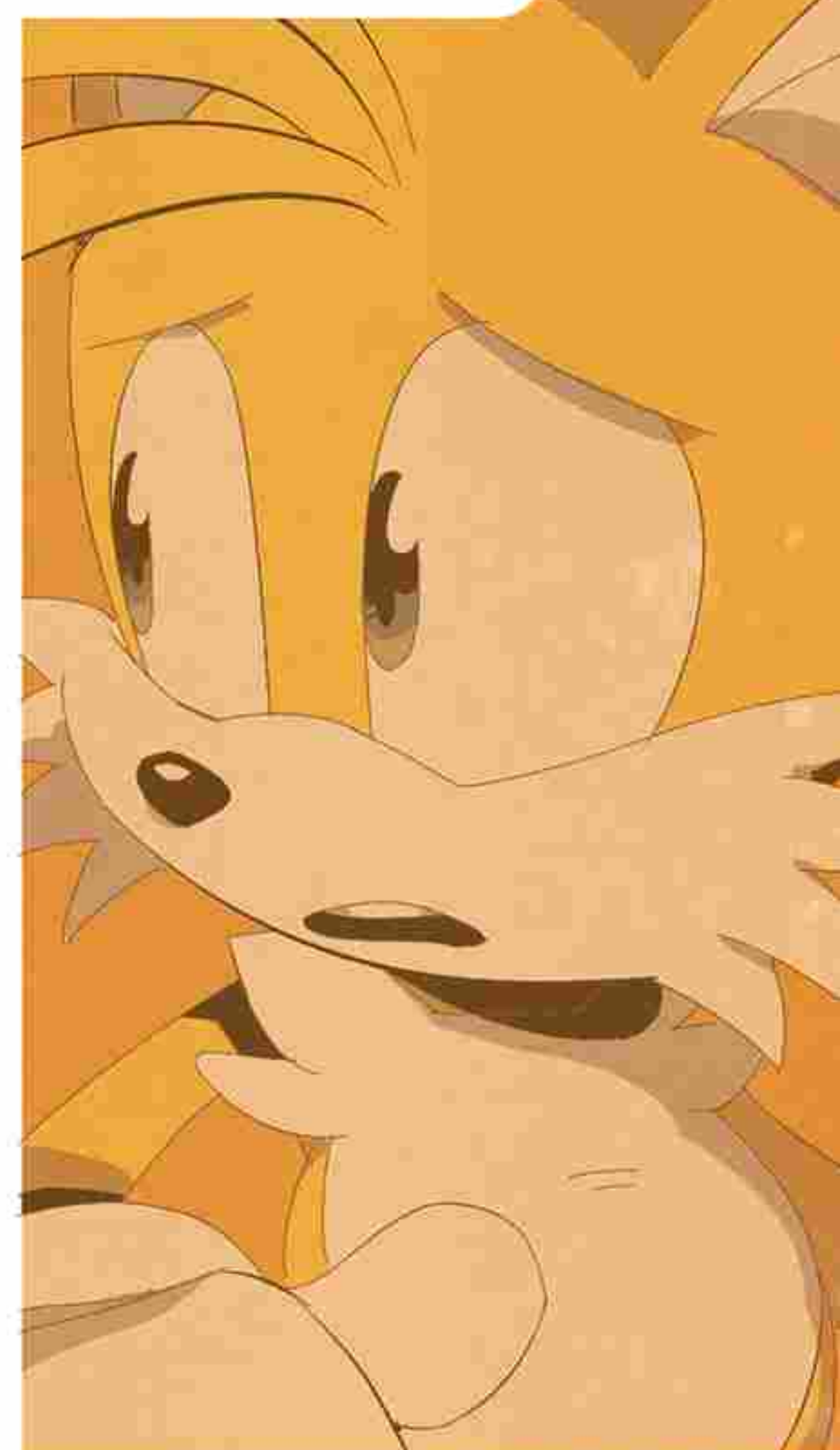
IDW

44

COVER A

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



Gigix

SEGA®

FLYNN • YARDLEY • FROESE • HERMS



STORY
IAN FLYNN

PENCILS
TRACY YARDLEY

INKS
MATT FROESE

COLORS
MATT HERMS

LETTERS
SHAWN LEE

ASSISTANT EDITOR
RILEY FARMER

EDITOR
DAVID MARIOTTE

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STORY SO FAR



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

The Blue Blur.
Fastest Thing Alive.



MILES "TAILS" PROWER

Tech-savvy Sidekick.
High-flying genius.



BELLE THE TINKERER

Clumsy Marionette.
Enthusiastic new-comer.



THE CHAOTIX

Ace Detective Agency.
Charmy, Vector, Espio.



THE DEADLY SIX

Zeti from Lost Hex.
Zavok, Zik, Zazz, Zeena, Zomom, Zor.



DR. STARLINE

Theatrical Bad Guy.
Former Eggman lackey.



YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO OVER-
POWER TAILS'
TECH.

ON THAT
NOTE...

EMERALDVILLE RUINS.



...YOUR
RIDE IS
HERE.



SO... WHAT IS
TO BECOME
OF US?

WE'RE
SENDING
YOU
HOME.

...WHAT?



MY ZETI LAUNCHER WILL CARRY
YOU ALL BACK TO LOST HEX.
ONCE THERE, ITS SYSTEMS WILL
SELF-DESTRUCT AND YOUR
ZETI ZAPPERS WILL
DEACTIVATE.

YOU'LL BE STRANDED ON
YOUR HOME WORLD, AND
THE REST OF US WILL
BE SAFE FROM YOU.

DON'T LET
THE DOOR HIT YOU
ON THE WAY OUT.
OR DO. I REALLY
DON'T CARE.





BUT I'M
NOT GOING TO
SACRIFICE MY
PRINCIPLES OUT
OF FEAR.



YOU WANT
TO CAUSE MORE
TROUBLE? FINE.
WASTE YOUR TIME.
I'LL KICK YOUR
BUTT EVERY
TIME.



HEH. I CAN
RESPECT
THAT.

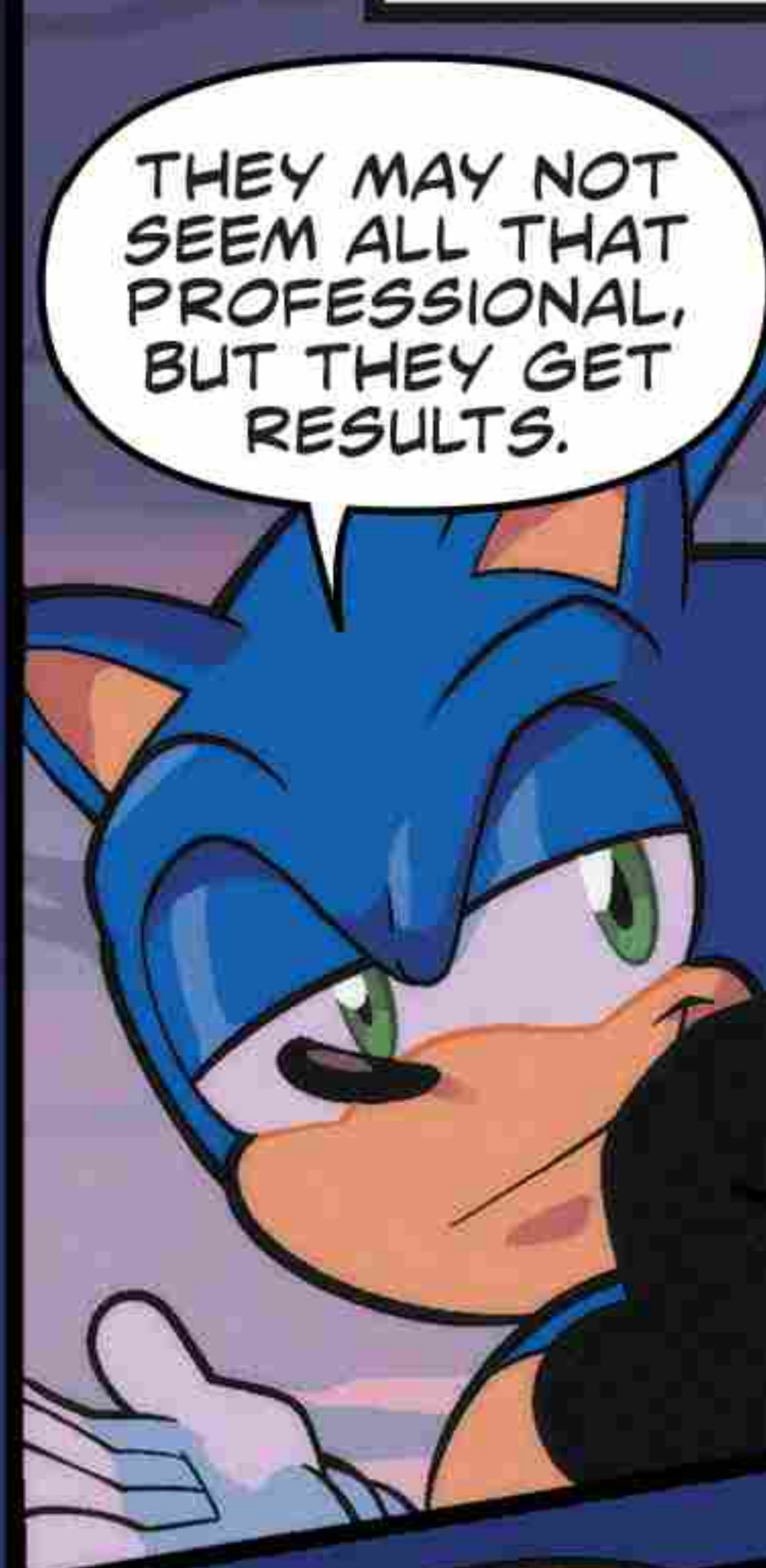




THE ZETI LAUNCHER IS EN ROUTE TO LOST HEX, JEWEL. ANY WORD FROM THE CHAOTIX?



THEY MISSED THEIR LAST CHECK-IN. I DON'T KNOW IF IT MEANS THEY'RE BUSY OR IF SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAS HAPPENED, OR...!



THEY MAY NOT SEEM ALL THAT PROFESSIONAL, BUT THEY GET RESULTS.

DON'T WORRY, JEWEL. IF ANYONE CAN FIND BELLE, IT'S THEM.



THAT SAID, IT WOULDN'T HURT FOR ME TO LOOK, TOO.

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE, SONIC.

THE DEADLY SIX CRISIS MAY BE RESOLVED, BUT WE KNOW DR. EGGMAN IS UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS*...



"...AND THERE'S
NO TELLING WHAT
DR. STARLINE
IS PLANNING."

I-I'M
BELLE. NICE
TO MEET
YOU...?

W-WHERE
AM I?!
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!

FINALLY!
YOU HAVE
THE MOST
OBTUSE
START-UP
ROUTINE.

THEN
AGAIN, YOUR
UNORTHODOX
DESIGN IS
PRECISELY
WHY I SOUGHT
YOU OUT!

I-I-I DON'T
UNDERSTAND!

I'M NOTHING
SPECIAL! I
JUST REPAIR
STUFF! AND MESS
THINGS UP! NOT
ALWAYS IN
THAT ORDER!

THERE'S
MORE TO YOU
THAN MEETS THE
EYE. WE *BOTH*
KNOW THAT.



PLEASE
DON'T
DISASSEMBLE
ME...

PERISH
THE THOUGHT!
YOU ARE A UNIQUE,
INCREDIBLY COMPLEX
PIECE OF ART! I
WOULDN'T DARE RISK
DAMAGING YOU!



WE MAY HAVE HAD A
FALLING OUT, BUT I STILL
HOLD DR. EGGMAN'S WORK
IN HIGH ESTEEM.



I
WASN'T
BUILT BY
EGGMAN!



THAT'S TRUE... TO AN EXTENT.
I SUSPECT YOU DON'T KNOW
THE FULL STORY.

TH-THERE'S
NO STORY
TO IT.



TUT-TUT,
LITTLE PUPPET.
LIES WILL MAKE
YOUR NOSE
GROW.



DR. EGGMAN
LOST HIS MEMORIES
AFTER ONE OF HIS
MOST CRITICAL
DEFEATS.

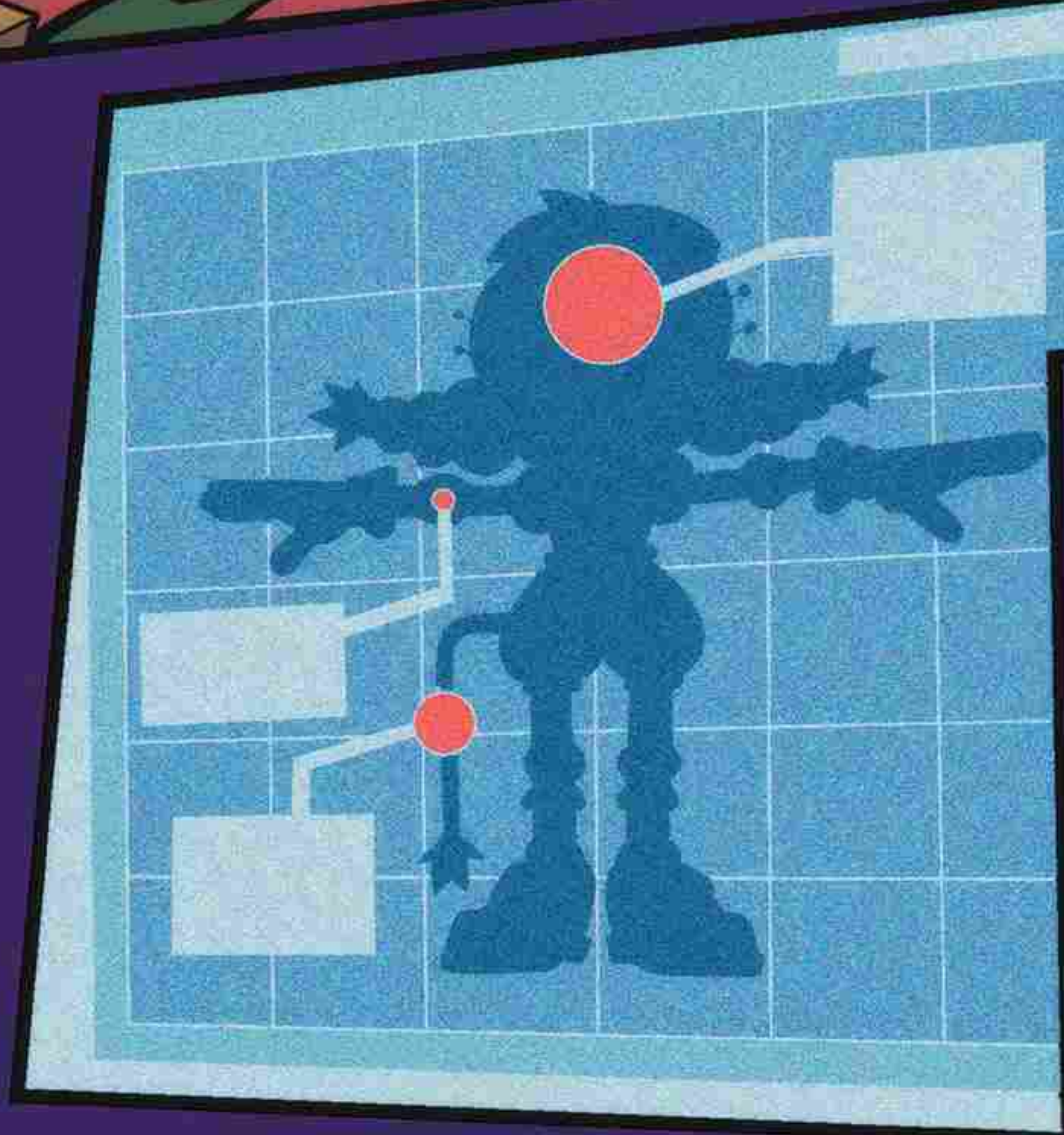
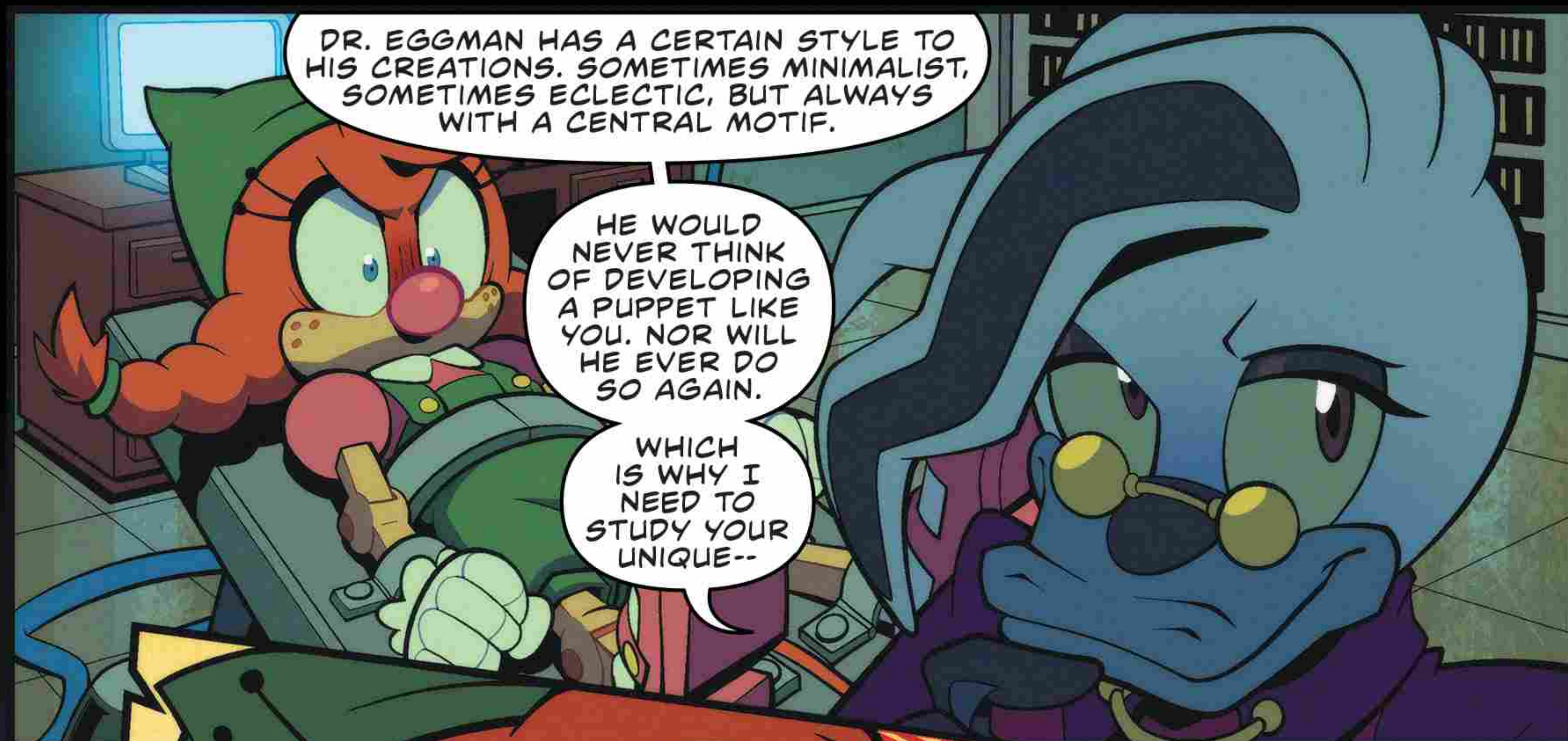


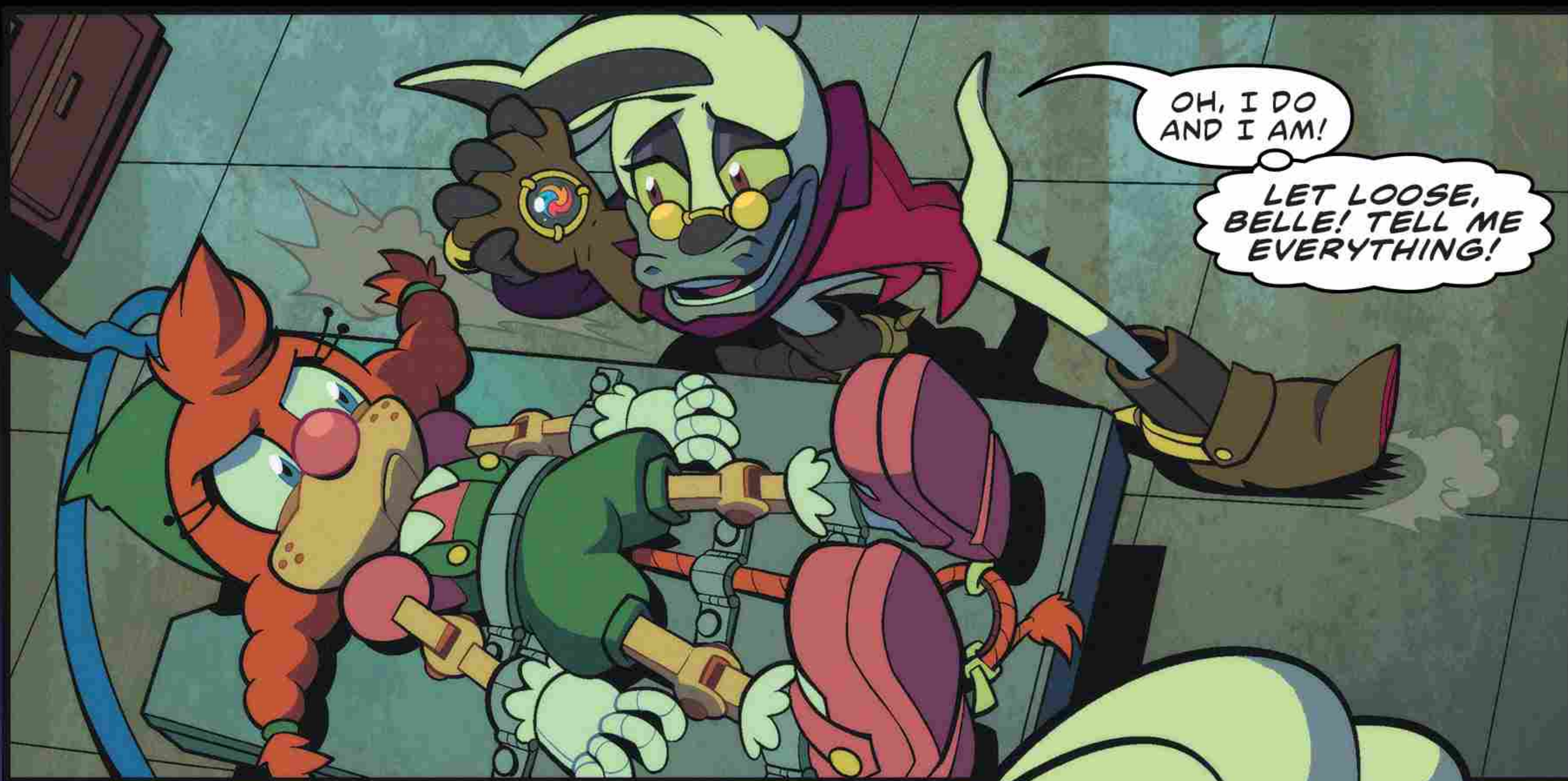
HE TOOK ON
THE PERSONA
OF *MR. TINKER*,
A KINDLY INVENTOR
AND REPAIR
MAN.

SO I TOOK
HIM IN AND
WENT TO GREAT
LENGTHS TO CURE
HIM OF THAT
STATE OF MIND.

WITH...
SOME
ASSISTANCE
FROM METAL
SONIC...









HE WAS
MISTER!
TINKER!

HE WAS KIND!
AND SWEET! AND
FUNNY! AND... I
LOVED HIM SO
MUCH...



...I WAS SO
HAPPY FIXING
THE TOYS AND
RIDES HE
MADE FOR THE
CHILDREN.

HE BEGAN TO
INTRODUCE ME TO
THE VILLAGERS.
THEY WERE NERVOUS
AROUND ME, BUT
WILLING TO GIVE
ME A CHANCE.



"THEN ONE DAY...
HE VANISHED."



"NOT LONG
AFTER,
EGGMAN
ATTACKED."



"THE METAL VIRUS
DIDN'T AFFECT ME..."



"...AND I WAS
VERY ALONE."





"EVENTUALLY EVERYONE WAS CURED AND CAME HOME..."

"...BUT THEY BLAMED ME. THEY THOUGHT I WAS AN EGGMAN SPY."



"THEY BROKE DOWN AND RECYCLED EVERYTHING MR. TINKER BUILT..."



"...AND GOT MAD IF I TRIED TO FIX ANYTHING."



"SO I RAN AWAY. I LOOKED FOR... HIM."

"I THOUGHT... MAYBE IF I FOUND HIM, I COULD TALK TO HIM. MAKE HIM COME BACK... AS MR. TINKER."



"INSTEAD, I WAS FOUND BY SONIC AND TAILS."





KEEP QUIET.
WE'LL ESCAPE
WHILE HE'S
DISTRACTED.



AND ON
TOP OF IT
ALL, THERE'S
GHOSTS?!



WAIT A MINUTE...
YOU'RE THAT
DETECTIVE-NINJA
GUY...

...THAT
CAN TURN
INVISIBLE...

...AW,
SAWDUST.



OH, FOR
PITY'S
SAKE...

...GIVE
IT UP, DOC!
THE CHAOTIX
HAVE YOU
SURROUNDED!









BETTER LUCK
NEXT TIME,
DETECTIVES.
AND MISS BELLE?
THANK YOU.



YOU'VE
BEEN VERY
HELPFUL.



ARGH!
HE'S TOO
FAST!

ARE YOU
OKAY? DID
HE HURT
YOU?



HE
BROKE MY
HEART.

LIKE...
LITERALLY?
'CAUSE TAILS
CAN MAYBE
FIX THAT.



NO...

SHH... IT'S
GONNA BE
OKAY NOW.

I'M HERE.
AND YOU'VE
GOT FRIENDS
WAITING FOR
YOU.

MEANWHILE--
LOST HEX.

FWOOSH

CLUNK

THEY WERE
TRUE TO THEIR
WORD.

ONE OF A
HERO'S MANY
WEAKNESSES.

WELL... HERE WE
ARE. BACK HOME
WITH NOTHING TO
SHOW FOR IT.

MAN... I
DON'T EVEN
FEEL LIKE
BREAKING
ANYTHING...

BEEP



CONSIDER, MY
PACK, THAT WE TOOK
ON A CONQUEST FAR
GREATER THAN ANY
ZETI EVER DARED
UNDERTAKE.

THERE IS
HONOR AND GLORY
TO BE FOUND IN THAT,
THOUGH OUR VICTORY
WAS STOLEN BY THESE
RODENTS BY A HAIR'S
BREADTH.

BUT
IN DEFEAT,
THERE IS
KNOWLEDGE.



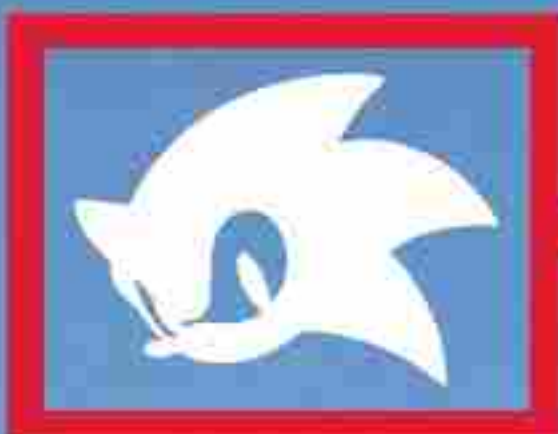
THESE PALTRY
TRICKS CANNOT DEFEAT
US AGAIN. LOST HEX
WILL NOT CONTAIN
US FOREVER.

WE WILL
RETURN TO THE
WORLD BELOW WITH
A VENGEANCE.
WISER.
STRONGER.



AND
EVEN MORE
RUTHLESS
THAN BEFORE.

THE END OF THE DEADLY SIX--FOR NOW!
NEXT TIME: TRIAL BY FIRE!



NEXT MONTH



SONIC

LETTERS SQUAD



Bye bye, Zeti and hello, Sonic Friends! Thank you for joining Ian Flynn, Tracy Yardley, Matt Froese, Matt Herms, and Shawn Lee for the final part of "Zeti Hunt"! But if you're like me, you're wondering just what it was Dr. Starline wanted from Belle... While we ponder that, let's check out your letters and art!

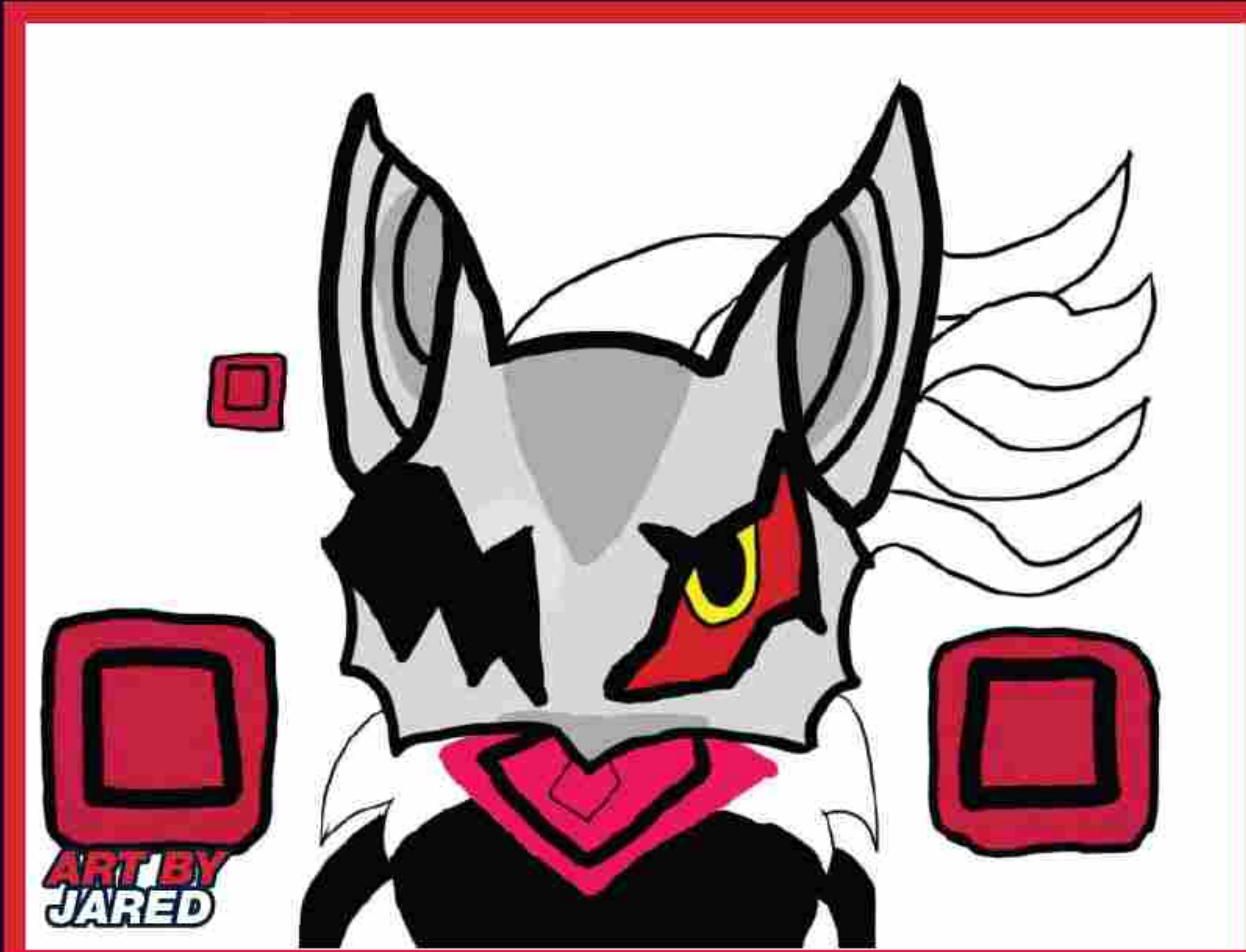
My name is Cassie and I am sixteen years old. Sonic the Hedgehog has been one of my favorite characters for a long time. I used to read some of the older Sonic comics, and while I was looking for some at the library, I found *Sonic the Hedgehog Volume One: Fallout*, containing issues one through four of your current comics. I was hooked! I immediately went searching for the next issues, and bought the ones not available at the library on Google Play. The most recent one I've read is #33 (I'm a little behind), which contains your interview with Evan Stanley, who I was shocked to find out is a girl! She is one of my favorite artists for these comics, and it was a pleasant surprise to find that out. Thanks for making such awesome



comics! I have one question though: Will Tangle be in any more issues? She's one of my favorite characters! Keep on spinnin'!

Hi Cassie! We love to hear that readers are finding Sonic at their local library! We love our local library (and have been known to check out the Sonic comics on our Library Pass app). And we're really glad you were pleasantly surprised by the creator corner! One of our goals in running those every other month is to let fans get to know the people making the comics a little bit more because chances are, you'll relate as other people who love Sonic! As per Tangle, we got to see her a bit last issue and she'll be back as part of our next arc, "Trial by Fire," starting next issue!

Hi Ian Flynn and Evan Stanley and everyone working on the Sonic comics! My name is Brian, I'm 20 years old and I'm about to turn 21 this year. I've been a Sonic fan since I was 3 years old and ever since then I've followed Sonic and will for the rest of my life! My mom and dad got me into Sonic by buying me a



Sonic plush and my first Sonic game is Sonic Heroes. I got into the comics since issue 1 and I love every single issue that's come out since then. Keep up the good work on the comics and can't wait for issue 50!!

Hi Brian! Very cool that you've been a Sonic fan for so long! We've got some big plans in place for Sonic #50, but before we can get there, we're going to be asking you and everyone else to join us on The Road to Sonic #50, a ten-part countdown starting next issue! But, as I'm sure you're thinking, next issue is #45 and there aren't 10 issues between #45 and #50. Well, we're about to kick off a brand-new Sonic mini-series in November! We'll be revealing more details when we can (keep an eye out and it may've already been announced), but rest assured, you're not going to want to miss an issue in this epic story, all coming together in part 10, issue #50 itself, coming in 2022!

The *Sonic the Hedgehog 30th Anniversary Special* is hands down one of the greatest Sonic comics ever put together! Every panel was charming and delightful and felt like the culmination of everything that made Sonic a special series for me. I really feel like these classic stories deserve their own series. I know so many other fans want to see more of the classic characters we never get to see in the main line series. Also we'd get far more Knuckles and I, nay the earth, needs more Knuckles! <3

With chili dogs and Love,
Preston M.

P.S. seeing Tracy Yardley! on pencils was nice and would love to see him on the



books more! He defined Sonic visually for me growing up.

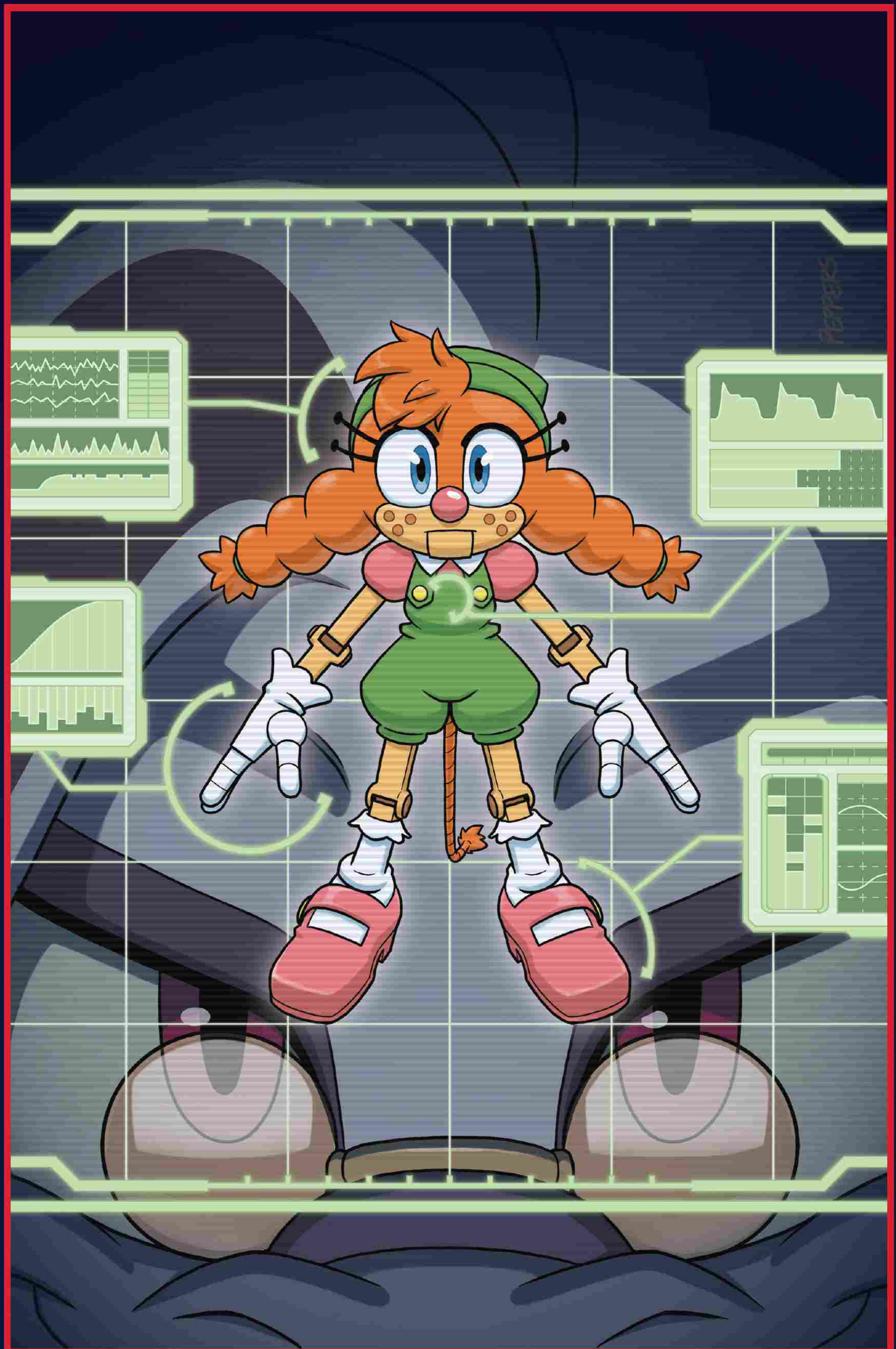
Hey Preston! Glad you enjoyed the 30th Anniversary Special! We loved putting it together and felt it was worthy of Sonic's 30th birthday! We love the world of the Classic characters and will definitely revisit them—and already did! Did you have a chance to pick up the 2021 Free Comic Book Day Special with another new Classic Sonic story from Gale Galligan, Thomas Rothlisberger, and Nathalie Fourdraine? Not a lot of Knuckles, unfortunately, but plenty of great Amy time! And, speaking of Tracy, yeah, his pencils on this issue and #42 were spectacular! Thanks so much to him for joining us once again!

Now thank you for joining us, Squad. Please don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them: "OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, the girls go camping in "Trial By Fire," part one!





ART GIGI DUTREIX



ART JAMAL PEPPERS



ART NATHALIE FOURDRAINE